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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 016866-008200US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

On February 25, 2002

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Gigi Hoover

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Edward J. Gavin, et al.

Application No.: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

For: METHOD FOR ANALYZING  
MASS SPECTRA

**COPY**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 5 with the following:

This application is a national stage of International Application No. PCT/US01/44972, filed November 15, 2001, which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Nos. 60/249,835 filed November 16, 2000 and 60/254,746 filed December 11, 2000. The above applications are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety for all purposes.